



April 1, 2010

To: Municipal Customers

From: Michael OConnell – Executive Director

The Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation (RIRRC) stands ready to assist our customers in managing the vast amount of debris expected to be generated from the recent flooding. This memo will address FEMA/RIEMA expectations, a new disaster debris waste code, cap concerns, and extended disposal hours.

1. FEMA/RIEMA Expectations

RIRRC is in full operation at our facility located at 65 Shun Pike, Johnston and has maintained full access to the unloading and disposal areas for our customers.

As each community activates their disaster debris management plans, they should communicate with their residents the need to keep flood debris separate from the routine household generated solid waste. Much of the debris generated from this storm event is recyclable and RIRRC reminds everyone that the best recycling is done at the point of generation. To the extent possible, proactive measures should be disseminated to the public outlining the Best Management Practices (BMPs) to keep materials segregated when being placed at the curbside. Materials should be separated into the following types of piles:

- Putrescent municipal solid waste (e.g. rotting food waste)
- Scrap metal and white goods (washers, dryers, hot water heaters, etc)
- Demolition waste – wood, floor tiles, carpet, etc.
- Household Hazardous Waste – such as pesticides, fertilizers, batteries, paint, cleaning agents, and other chemicals. If a substance cannot be identified, it should be assumed to be HHW.
- Green waste – including trees and shrubs (no wood)

As the above separated flood debris arrives at the RIRRC facility, if self-identified as flood debris, it will be weighed in under a disaster debris waste code (see Item 2), and directed to the appropriate receiving area for processing. Mixed waste will be sent to the landfill for disposal. During debris operations, RIRRC will be maintaining the same rules and operational practices as prior to the disaster. Therefore, please assist us in making sure only non-regulated, non hazardous materials are picked up by your staff or your contractors for delivery to RIRRC.

2. Disaster Debris Waste Code

In order to properly track the flood debris for FEMA reimbursement records RIRRC has created a Disaster Debris waste code. The loads must be segregated, flood debris only (as outlined above), and the hauler must identify the load as flood debris when scaling in. All material will be accepted under your current contract terms and conditions. This separate waste code will facilitate your FEMA reimbursement process. FEMA certified loads will be eligible for reimbursement at a 75/25 split (75% of your flood related costs may be reimbursable). This Disaster Debris waste code is intended for municipal waste only, not commercial, institutional, or “drive up” customers.

3. Municipal Cap

Loads tipped under the Disaster Debris waste code will not be counted against your municipal solid waste tonnage cap. Therefore, flood debris tipped under this code will not negatively impact your recycling rate. Because much of the debris may be recyclable, it is imperative that you communicate to your residents that segregation as outlined above in Item 1 is critical, so that your municipality does not potentially lose recyclables to the overall flood debris. For now, the disaster debris cap exclusion will be in effect through April 30, 2010. Any cap exclusions beyond April 30 will be handled on a case by case basis.

4. Extended Disposal Hours/Additional HHW collection

RIRRC is extending the facility’s operating hours on the following Saturdays:

- Saturday April 3 Open 6am to 2pm
- Saturday April 10 Open 6am to 4pm
- Saturday April 17 Open 6am to 2pm
- Saturday April 24 Open 6am to 2pm

We have also added an additional Eco-Depot/Household Hazardous Waste collection to the April schedule:

- Saturday April 3 Coventry, 1668 Flat River Road, 8am to 1pm
- Saturday April 10 Johnston, Central Landfill, 65 Shun Pike, 8am-Noon
- Saturday April 17 Middletown, Second Beach, 8am-1pm
- Saturday April 17 Johnston, Central Landfill, 65 Shun Pike; 8am-1pm **(NEW)**
- Saturday April 24 Pawtucket, Jenks Jr. High, 8am-1pm
- Saturday April 24 Block Island, 9am-1pm

Residents are still encouraged to make an appointment with the Eco-Depot to help reduce time spent waiting in line. Appointments may be requested by clicking on the Eco-Depot icon on our website www.rirrc.org or by calling 942-1430 ext. 241.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 942-1430 ext. 262 or Brian Card, Director of Landfill Operations and Engineering, at ext. 140 with any questions.

Cc: Terry Gray, RIDEM; Rosemary Booth Gallogly, RIDOA; Amy Kempe, Governor’s Office; Steve Kass, RIEMA